

# Cuba Halts Release of PWs' Kin

## Kennedy Blasted For Honoring Freed Invaders

From News Dispatches

MIAMI, Dec. 28—Fidel Castro abruptly halted the release of relatives of Cuban invasion prisoners today. At the same time, the government-controlled radio and press loosed a bitter attack on President Kennedy for honoring the invaders and their leaders.

Cuba gave no official reason for halting the release of relatives. It previously had announced that any who wished to do so were free to leave so long as they turned over their property to the state.

An estimated 5000 to 6000 of the relatives reportedly want to leave Cuba.

Castro's policy switch was announced in Havana by an official of the Swiss Embassy, which is representing United States interests in that country.

About 1000 Cubans were

*Britain refuses landing rights to Cuba-bound Soviet plane. Page A5.*

outside the Embassy at the time, clamoring for help to get out of Cuba.

### Power Struggle Seen

In Washington, it was reported that Castro's regime may be caught in a power struggle as a result of the blow to its prestige caused by the unilateral Soviet decision to remove its missiles and bombers from the island.

Some indication of what is happening in the cleavage reported within the Cuban hierarchy may come in the Jan. 1-2 celebrations of Castro's accession to power in 1959. There is no firm information that Castro's personal position is threatened.

Castro is expected to deliver a major speech at that time. On Jan. 2, Communist China, which has been bitterly critical of the Soviet Union for its withdrawal of weapons from Cuba, is planning national demonstrations to honor the Cuban revolution.

### Castro-Mikoyan Struggle

There was evidence of a continuing struggle between Castro and Soviet Deputy Premier Anastas I. Mikoyan during Mikoyan's lengthy stay in Cuba at the peak of the crisis. Some members of the Castro regime, like Ernesto (Che) Guevara, reportedly have become more openly pro-Peking than ever in the Peking-Moscow ideological struggle. But in material terms, Cuba can obtain major aid only from the Soviet bloc.

Castro reportedly has failed to turn up at many functions where he had been expected to appear, and is spending much time at the University

of Havana, trying to placate students who accuse the Soviet Union of a "sellout."

To add to the uncertainty of what is happening on the Cuban scene, there remain in Cuba an estimated 10,000 Soviet troops, including four reinforced combat battalions, although some Soviet personnel are being withdrawn.

The news that Castro had halted the release of relatives of the ransomed prisoners had a sobering effect on Miami's huge colony of exiled Cubans, which now numbers more than 100,000.

The exiles had been elated in recent days, first by the release of the prisoners and then the release of 922 relatives.

President Kennedy gave their morale another boost by promising to come to Miami Saturday to review the 111 members of the Bay of Pigs invasion brigade.

Cuban radio commentators today charged that Mr. Kennedy had "violated all the principles" set forth in the United Nations Charter by "his arrogant gesture" in meeting with invasion leaders yesterday.

The President was accused of a "new act of aggression" against Cuba and of showing "imperialist contempt" for the United Nations. The Cuban people, one commentator said, will give their "answer" to Mr. Kennedy on Jan. 2.

The Communist newspaper Hoy said, "By receiving his invasion agents, Kennedy is promoting a so-called 'right' of United States imperialism to promote, finance and arm the counter-revolution."

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